

To: the Judiciary Committee

April 9, 2015

Re: Support for Reconfirmation of Chief Justice Chase Rogers

I write to express my strong support for Chief Justice Rogers, and urge her reconfirmation.

Justice Rogers has been an active and creative Chief Justice. I have observed her in action on various task forces and have heard her speak about a number of her initiatives, and am very impressed.

Chief Justice Rogers truly cares about the responsiveness of the courts to the public, and takes her role very seriously. She is tackling some of the most serious and perplexing problems in our justice system today: the access to justice gap; the role of attorneys and corporations in filling that gap; the need for more dispute resolution; uniformity; and public confidence in the courts. She takes all of these issues to heart and has shown remarkable leadership, and results, in these areas.

To the extent there is a vocal group that thinks she has not been responsive to their desire to dismantle the family law system, that is not at all indicative of Chief Justice Rogers' failure as a Chief Justice; in fact, it demonstrates quite the opposite. The Chief Justice is a jurist and person of integrity who does what she thinks is best for all the citizens, not just a few disgruntled litigants. Chief Justice Rogers was able to do well what we need our judges to be able to do: dispassionately weigh the "evidence", identify where the system could be improved, and not be afraid to make those changes, and/or support those changes in the law. But when she thinks some of the critics are mistaken, she is not afraid to say no; she does not pander. Instead she speaks her mind honestly and thoughtfully, and then does what she knows is right.

What better attributes are there for a Chief Justice?

Accordingly, I join those who have seen Chief Justice Rogers in action and admire her leadership, integrity and courage. She has earned the respect of the bench, the bar, and the other branches of government, and deserves reconfirmation.

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